REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

In response to the election of species requirement issued in this case, Applicant elects Species I as shown in Figures 1, 5, on which claims 1-12 read, for initial examination without traverse. Further, Applicant elects Species IA as shown in Figure 1, on which claims 1-6 read, for initial examination without traverse.

Applicant submits that claim 1 is generic to Species IA and IB. Accordingly, claims 7-12 reading on non-elected Species IB have been indicated as withdrawn, but are left pending as these claims may be examined if generic claim 1 is found to be allowable. Also, non-elected claims 13-26 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Further, new claims 27-46 have been added in this reply. These claims are fully supported by the original specification and no new matter has been added. Claims 27-46 read on elected Species IA.

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 02008.125001).

Date: 12/2/04

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan P. Osha, Reg. No. 33,986

Osha & May L.L.P.

One Houston Center, Suite 2800

1221 McKinney Street

Houston, TX 77010

Telephone: (713) 228-8600 Facsimile: (713) 228-8778

82387_1